

§ 51.310

on the basis of weight or an equivalent basis.

[41 FR 11312, Mar. 18, 1976. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981]

CONDITION AFTER STORAGE OR TRANSIT

§ 51.310 Condition after storage or transit.

(a) Decay, scald or any other deterioration which may have developed on apples after they have been in storage or transit shall be considered as affecting condition and not the grade.

PACKING REQUIREMENTS

§ 51.311 Packing requirements.

(a) Apples tray packed or cell packed in cartons shall be arranged according to approved and recognized methods. Packs shall be at least fairly tight¹ or fairly well filled.²

(b) Closed cartons containing apples not tray or cell packed shall be fairly well filled² or the pack shall be sufficiently tight to prevent any appreciable movement of the apples.

(c) Packs in wooden boxes or baskets shall be sufficiently tight to prevent any appreciable movement of apples within containers when the packages are closed. Each wrapped apple shall be completely enclosed by its individual wrapper.

(d) Apples on the shown face of any container shall be reasonably representative in size, color and quality of the contents.

(e) *Tolerances*. In order to allow for variations incident to proper packing, not more than 10 percent of the con-

¹“Fairly tight” means that apples are of the proper size for molds or cell compartments in which they are packed, and that molds or cells are filled in such a way that no more than slight movement of apples within molds or cells is possible. The top layer of apples, or any pad or space filler over the top layer of apples shall be not more than 3/4 inch below the top edge of the carton.

²“Fairly well filled” means that the net weight of apples in containers ranging from 2,100 to 2,900 cubic inch capacity is not less than 37 pounds for Cortland, Gravenstein, Jonathan, McIntosh and Golden Delicious varieties and not less than 40 pounds for all other varieties.

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tainers in any lot may fail to meet these requirements.

MARKING REQUIREMENTS

§ 51.312 Marking requirements.

The numerical count or the minimum diameter of the apples packed in a closed container shall be indicated on the container.

(a) When the numerical count is not shown, the minimum diameter shall be plainly stamped, stenciled or otherwise marked on the container in terms of whole inches, or whole inches and not less than eighth inch fractions thereof.

(b) The word “minimum”, or its abbreviation, when following a diameter size marking, means that the apples are of the size marked or larger. (See §§ 51.307 and 51.308.)

[31 FR 11171, Aug. 24, 1966. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981]

DEFINITIONS

§ 51.313 Mature.

Mature means that the apples have reached the stage of development which will insure the proper completion of the ripening process. Before a mature apple becomes overripe it will show varying degrees of firmness, depending upon the stage of the ripening process. The following terms are used for describing different stages of firmness of apples:

(a) *Hard* means apples with a tenacious flesh and starchy flavor.

(b) *Firm* means apples with a tenacious flesh but which are becoming crisp with a slightly starchy flavor, except the Delicious variety.

(c) *Firm ripe* means apples with crisp flesh except that the flesh of the Gano, Ben Davis, and Rome Beauty varieties may be slightly mealy.

(d) *Ripe* means apples with mealy flesh and soon to become soft for the variety.

§ 51.314 Overripe.

Overripe means apples which are dead ripe, with flesh very mealy or soft, and past commercial utility.